

DAREDEVIL
THE
MAN
WITHOUT
FEAR

**FRANK
MILLER**

**JOHN
ROMITA JR.**

**AL
WILLIAMSON**

**CHRISTIE
SCHEELE**

**JOE
ROSEN**



IT'S A WONDER HE
ISN'T A VILLAIN.



HE'S GOT EVERY EXCUSE. BORN TO
POVERTY. A BROKEN FAMILY. A CHILD-
HOOD SPENT IN A SQUALID SLUM.
HOUNDED AND TAUNTED AND BEATEN
BY SCHOOLYARD BULLIES. TO TOP IT
ALL OFF HE GETS STRUCK IN THE EYES
BY TOXIC WASTE AND BLINDED FOR LIFE.

BLINDED, BULLIED,
IMPOVERISHED.
SURROUNDED BY
CALAMITY.



ROLE MODELS? HIS MOTHER, AN ENIGMA,
LONG GONE BY THE TIME HE COULD WALK.
HIS FATHER, A WELL-MEANING LOSER
WHO PAID FOR HIS GREATEST MOMENT OF
COURAGE WHEN A BULLET SPLATTERED
HIS BRAINS ACROSS A GRIMY ALLEY WALL.
HIS TEACHER, A GRUFF, FOUL-MOUTHED
WARRIOR WHO SHOWED HIM THE BEAUTY
IN HIS DARK WORLD, THEN DISMISSED HIM
AS A WRETCHED FAILURE.

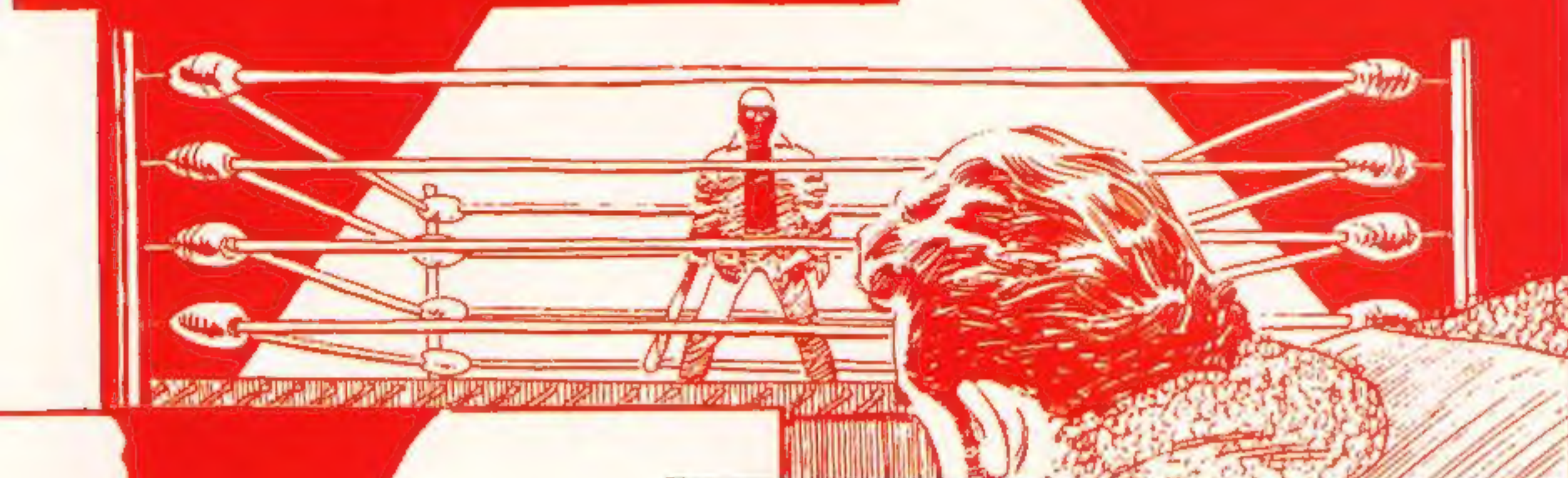
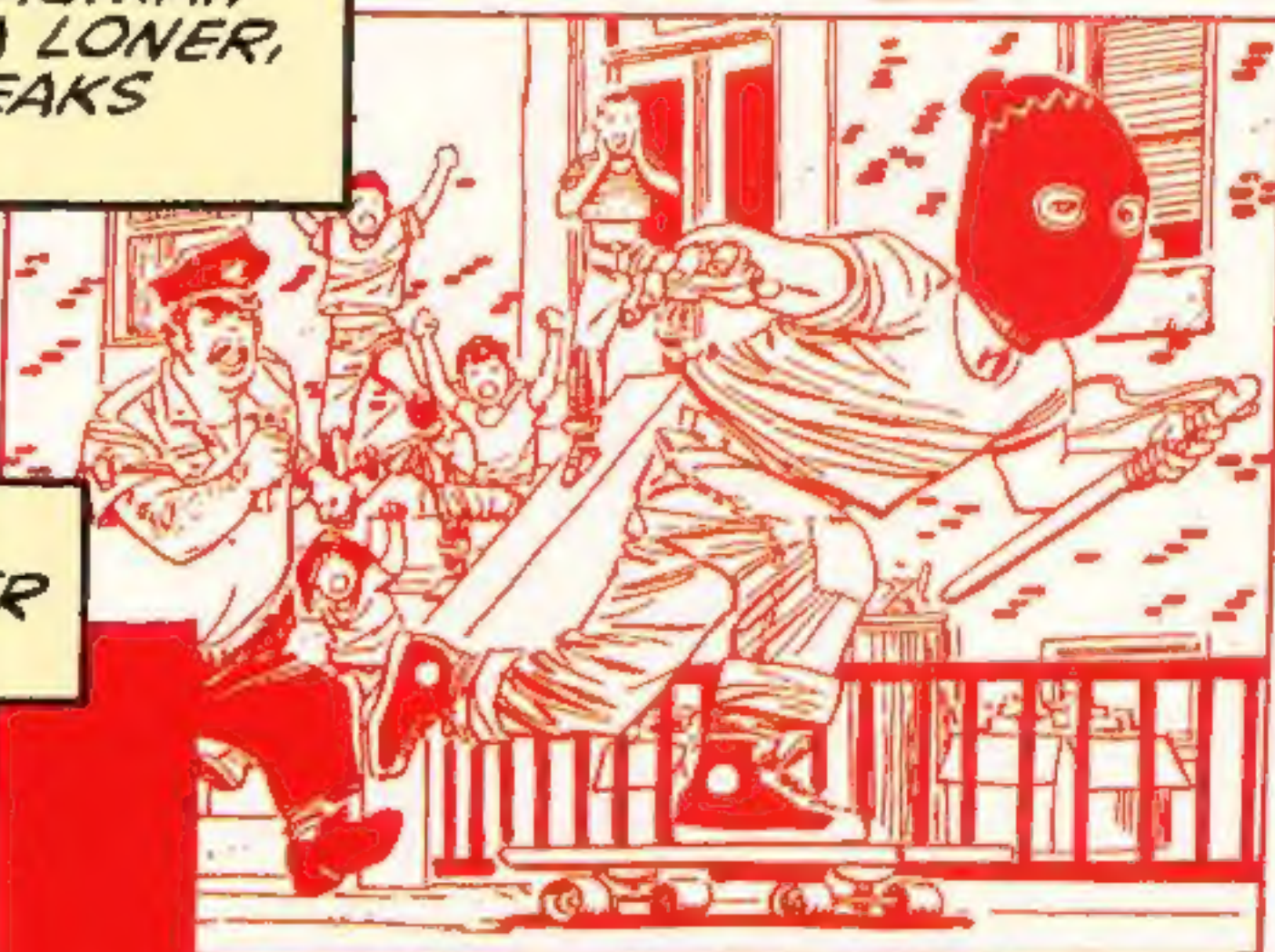


HIS LOVE LIFE?
NOTHING SHORT
OF DISASTROUS.



HE'S GOT ALL THE MAKINGS OF A VILLAIN. HE'S A NATURAL BORN RASCAL, A MISCHIEF-MAKER, A SCRAPPER. HE'S A LIAR, WHO WEARS A MASK TO BETRAY THE SOLEMN OATH HE MADE TO HIS FATHER A THOUSAND TIMES. HE'S A DANGEROUS ADEPT, GIFTED WITH A NEARLY SUPERHUMAN TALENT FOR VIOLENCE. HE'S A LONER, A SINNER, A LAWYER WHO BREAKS THE LAW.

AND THEN THERE'S THAT WICKED TEMPER OF HIS.



HE'S GOT EVERY EXCUSE IN THE WORLD. AND WITHIN HIM ARE THE MAKINGS.

BUT MATT MURDOCK IS NO VILLAIN, AND NO VICTIM. THERE'S SOMETHING STRONG INSIDE HIM, PASSED FROM UNKNOWN MOTHER AND DOOMED FATHER TO SON. SOMETHING TESTED BY TRAGEDY. TEMPERED BY CONSCIENCE. HONED BY DISCIPLINE. SOMETHING THAT HOLDS BACK THE BLOODTHIRSTY BEAST WITHIN AND FORCES IT TO SERVE THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE.

MOST OF THE TIME, ANYWAY.



OF COURSE HIS QUEST IS A TORTURED ONE, FRAUGHT WITH FAILURE AND GUILT AND PAIN. IT HAS TO BE THAT WAY. NOTHING EVER COMES EASY FOR MATT MURDOCK. BUT EVERY ORDEAL IS ANOTHER STEP IN HIS CROOKED PATH FROM NAUGHTY LITTLE STREET KID TO IMPROBABLE CHAMPION.

A TORTURED QUEST. ONE THAT LEAVES HIM FAR FROM PERFECT.

HE MAY NEVER JOIN THE HOLY ORDER HIS TEACHER HINTED AT.

BUT HE WILL DO THE BEST HE CAN, THIS HERO.

HE'LL FIGHT THE BULLIES TILL THE DAY HE DIES.



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LOS ANGELES 1993

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**DAREDEVIL
THE
MAN
WITHOUT
FEAR**

In just a few short weeks **DAREDEVIL** will be thirty. To celebrate this event we have given him a double-sized anniversary issue, a poster, and, of course, the final issue of **THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR**. You still have to read this very issue. Wait on pins and needles. Then be back for more. A lot more.

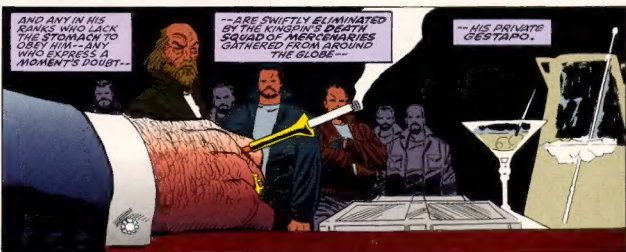
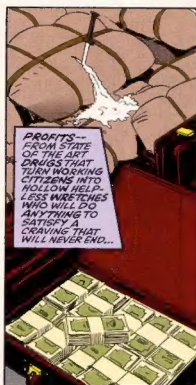
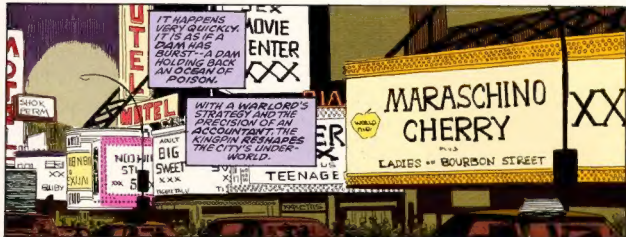
It's going to be the anniversary that was worth a thirty year wait.

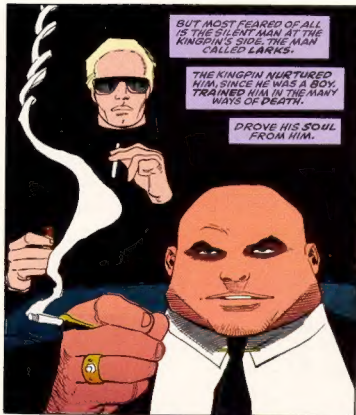
Ralf & Pat

WHAT HAS GONE ON BEFORE:

College student Matt Murdock continues his romantic involvement with the mysterious Elektra. He works out with her, and makes love to her—despite his mentor Stick's admonition that she is to be avoided. Then, following the death of her diplomat father, Elektra leaves, almost breaking Matt's heart.

Meanwhile, in Manhattan, a new figure in organized crime emerges: the Kingpin. His presence will soon have a profound effect on the turbulent life of one Matthew Murdock.





BUT MOST FEARED OF ALL IS THE SILENT MAN AT THE KINGPIN'S SIDE, THE MAN CALLED LARKS.

THE KINGPIN NURTURED HIM, SINCE HE WAS A BOY, TRAINED HIM IN THE MANY WAYS OF DEATH.

DROVE HIS SOUL FROM HIM.



LEAVING A THING WITH AN ICY MASK FOR A FACE.

A THING TO WHOM KILLING IS AS NATURAL AS BREATHING.

A THING THAT FINDS PLEASURE ONLY IN COLD CRUELTY.

YEARS PASS.



MATT MURDOCK GRADUATES SUMMA CUM LAUDE FROM HARVARD LAW SCHOOL AND FINDS WORK AT THE BOSTON FIRM OF SUSSMAN AND CASTRO.

HE IS NOT HAPPY, BUT HE IS BUSY, AND THAT'S CLOSE ENOUGH.

UNTIL THE PAST COMES CALLING.

EXCUSE ME, MURDOCK, BUT I'M NOT ASKING.

YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

YES, SIR.



YOU'VE DONE GOOD WORK FOR US, MATT. KEEP IT UP AND YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO BECOMING THE YOUNGEST JUNIOR PARTNER WE'VE EVER HAD.

NOW GET YOUR BRIEF ON THAT PLANE TO NEW YORK AND NO MORE ARGUMENTS!

YES, SIR.



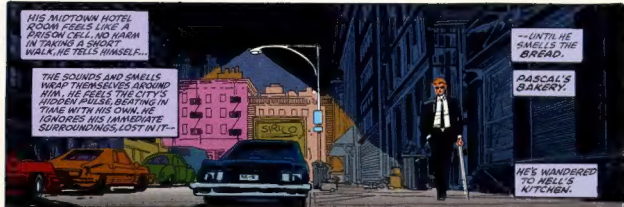
NEW YORK, IT STILL SOUNDS THE SAME. IT STILL FEELS THE SAME.

AND ALL THE MEMORIES SURGE UP, LAUGHING AT HIM LIKE SCHOOLYARD BULLIES.

YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME, THE CITY ROADS.

YOU CAN'T ESCAPE YOURSELF.

AND SO MATT COMES BACK.



HIS MIDTOWN HOTEL ROOM FEELS LIKE A PRISON CELL. NO HARM IN TAKING A SHORT WALK, HE TELLS HIMSELF...

THE SOUNDS AND SMELLS WRAP THEMSELVES AROUND HIM. HE FEELS THE CITY'S HIDDEN PULSE, BEATING IN TIME WITH HIS OWN. HE IGNORES HIS IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS, LOST IN IT--

--UNTIL HE SMELLS THE BREAD.

PASCAL'S BAKERY.

HE'S WANDERED TO NELL'S KITCHEN.



AND THE YEARS MELT AWAY.

AND HE CAN HEAR THE RATTLE OF HIS SKATEBOARD.

THE ANGRY SHOUTS OF OFFICER LIBBOWITZ.



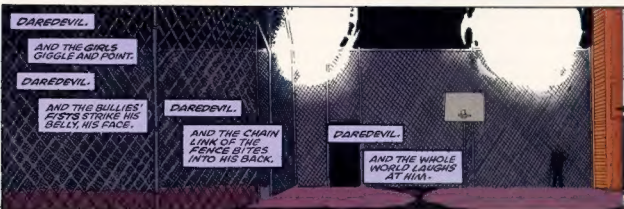
THE SMACK OF DAD'S RIGHT HOOK AND THE RISING CHEER OF THE CROWD.



AND THAT SOUND THAT MADE HIS STOMACH GO COLD.

THE NASTY ELECTRIC BUTTER THAT MEANS RECESS.

RECESS. AND THE NICKNAME.



DAREDEVIL.

AND THE GIRLS GIGGLE AND POINT.

DAREDEVIL.

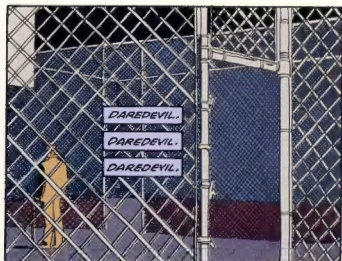
AND THE BULLIES' FISTS STRIKE HIS BELLY, HIS FACE.

DAREDEVIL.

AND THE CHAIN LINK OF THE FENCE BITES INTO HIS BACK.

DAREDEVIL.

AND THE WHOLE WORLD LAUGHS AT HIM.



AND NOW A
NEW VOICE.
CREAMY WITH
CONFIDENCE.

BLIND
MAN--I'M
TALKING
TO YOU.



WITH A BULLY'S
CONFIDENCE.

AND BULLIES
NEVER STRIKE
ALONE.

LEAVE
ME ALONE.
I DON'T
WANT ANY
TROUBLE.

YOU SHOULD'VE
THOUGHT ABOUT
THAT BEFORE YOU
PUT ON THAT THREE
HUNDRED DOLLAR
SUIT AND WENT
CRUISING HELL'S
KITCHEN.

IT'S ONE
HELL OF A
NICE SUIT.

I GET
THE
SHOES.



GIVE US A
SHOW, BLIND
MAN.
STRIP.

SNIKK

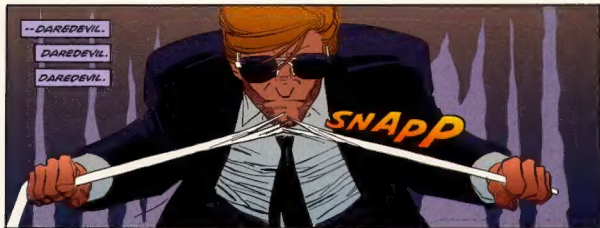


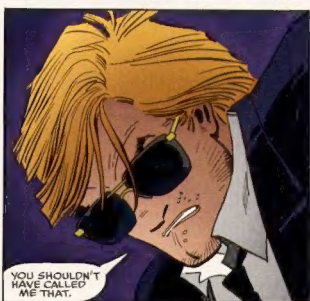
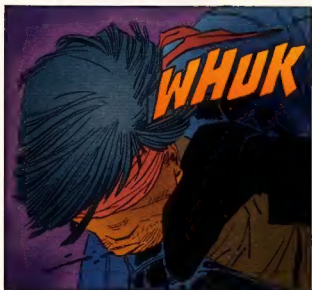
I
SAID--

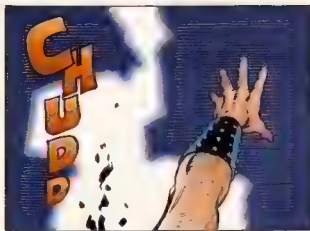
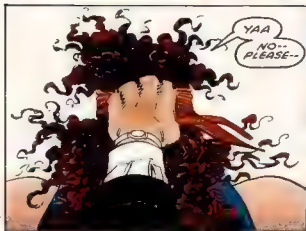
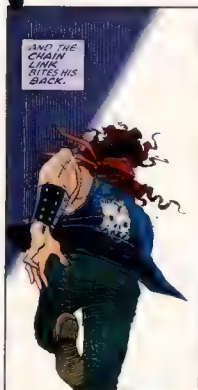
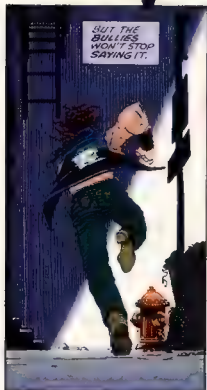
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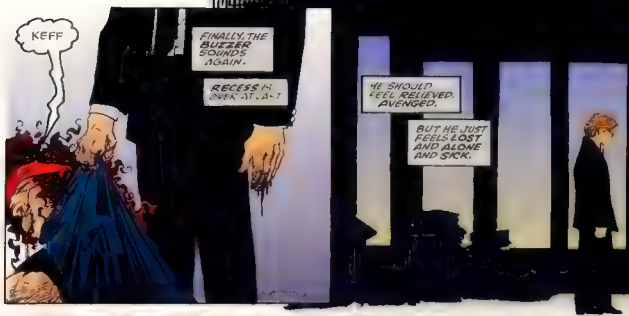
MATT DOESN'T
HEAR THE
CURSES.

HE ONLY HEARS
THE NAME--









BUT THAT'S
ALL GONE
NOW. DEAD
AND BURIED
IN THE PAST.



BURIED
WITH
DAD.

BURIED WITH
MATT'S SKATE-
BOARD AND
SKI MASK
AND ALL HIS
MISCHIEF.

HIS FEVER BREAKS.
HE'S IN CONTROL
AGAIN. HE CALMS
HIS HEART.

...AND HEARS
ANOTHER'S
BEAT.



HE GETS
HER
SCENT.

FEMALE.
YOUNG.
STRONG.
SCARED.

SHE'S HOLDING
HER BREATH.

NOW-- SHE'S
MOVING--

-- RUBBER
GIVES OUT
A GROAN--



-- THEN
SIGHS, IN
RELIEF.



I MEAN YOU
NO HARM,
YOUNG LADY.



HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

SHE SAYS HER NAME'S MICKEY. SHE SAYS SHE'S AN ORPHAN.

SHE'S LYING BOTH TIMES.

SHE'S ADOPTED THE GYM AS HER OWN PRIVATE HIDEOUT.

SHE'S MUCH LIKE HE WAS AT HER AGE. RESTLESS, IMPATIENT

THE TWO MEET TO WORK OUT, HER AFTER SCHOOL HIM AFTER A JOB THAT SEEMS MORE TEDIOUS EVERY DAY

THERE'S NO HARM IN GETTING A LITTLE EXERCISE.

YOUR MIND'S WANDERING. YOU'RE NOT CONCENTRATING.

I AM SO!

AND NOT ALL THE MEMORIES ARE BAD ONES.

MATT EVEN SMILES WHEN HE PASSES THE RUSTY OLD LOCKER WHERE HE HID OFFICER LIEBOWITZ'S NIGHT STICK.

HE ALMOST WANTS TO CHECK IF IT'S STILL IN THERE, BUT THAT WOULD BE SILLY.

MURDOCK, JACK MURDOCK, IS THAT YOUR DAD? ON THE WALL, I MEAN.

YOU SAID HE WAS A BOXER BUT HE'S DRESSED UP REALLY DOPEY.

I KNOW THE POSTER YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, MICKEY. IT'S NO WAY TO REMEMBER HIM

NO KICKING
JACK THE DEVIL MURDOCK

MY DAD WAS A GOOD GUY--AND A GOOD FIGHTER, IN HIS TIME. BUT FOR A LONG WHILE HE COULDN'T GET ANY BOUTS. AND FIGHTING WAS ALL HE KNEW. SO HE DID WHATEVER IT TOOK TO KEEP FOOD ON THE TABLE. EVERY JOB HE COULD GET, NO MATTER HOW LOUSY.

THAT POSTER-- THAT'S WHERE THE BULLIES GOT THAT NICKNAME THEY GAVE ME.

DEVIL? THEY CALLED YOU DEVIL?



NO, IT WAS
DAREDEVIL.

THEY CALLED
ME DAREDEVIL.

FAPP



WEEKS SAIL BY,
PLEASANTLY
ENOUGH.

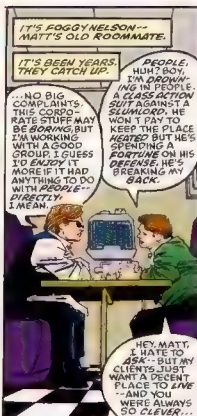
THEN, ONE DAY, AS
MATT CONSIDERS
LUNCH...

YOU WANNA
PASTRAMI
REUBEN ON WHITE?
THAT'S A DAMN
CRIME!

AND A SIDE OF
MAYONNAISE,
PLEASE.

MAYO ONNA
REUBEN?
THAT MAKES
IT A FELONY!

THERE'S NO
MISTAKING THE
VOICE--OR
THE TASTES.



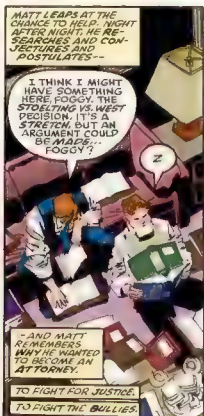
IT'S FOGGY NELSON--
MATT'S OLD ROOMMATE.

IT'S BEEN YEARS.
THEY CATCH UP.

...NO BIG
COMPLAINTS.
THIS CORPO-
RATE STUFF MAY
BE BORING, BUT
I'M WORKING
WITH A GOOD
GROUP, I GUESS
I'D ENJOY IT
MORE IF IT HAD
ANYTHING TO DO
WITH PEOPLE--
DIRECTLY,
I MEAN.

PEOPLE.
HUH? BOY,
I'M DROW-
NING IN PEOPLE.
A CLASS ACTION
SUIT AGAINST A
SLUMLORD. HE
WON'T PAY TO
KEEP THE PLACE
HEATED BUT HE'S
SPENDING A
FORTUNE ON HIS
DEFENSE. HE'S
BREAKING MY
BACK.

HEY, MATT,
I HATE TO
ASK--BUT MY
CLIENTS JUST
WANT A DECENT
PLACE TO LIVE
--AND YOU
WERE ALWAYS
SO CLEVER...



MATT LEAPS AT THE
CHANCE TO HELP. NIGHT
AFTER NIGHT, HE RE-
SEARCHES AND CON-
JECTURES AND
POSTULATES--

I THINK I MIGHT
HAVE SOMETHING
HERE, FOGGY. THE
STOLEN VS. WEST
DECISION, IT'S A
STRETCH, BUT AN
ARGUMENT COULD
BE MADE...
FOGGY?

--AND MATT
REMEMBERS
WHY HE WANTED
TO BECOME AN
ATTORNEY.

TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE.
TO FIGHT THE BULLIES.

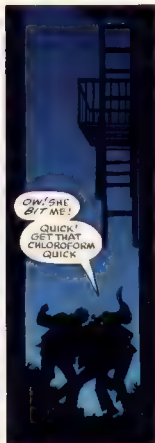
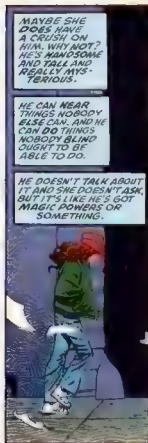
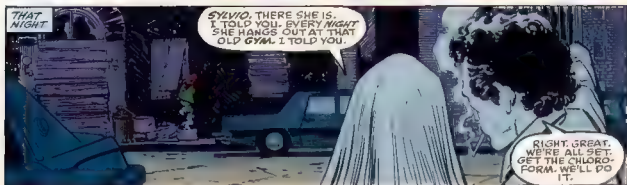
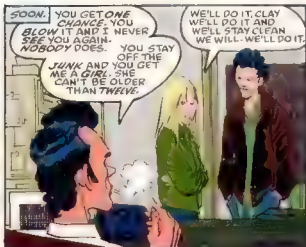
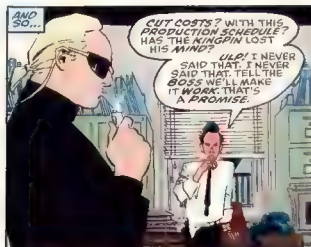


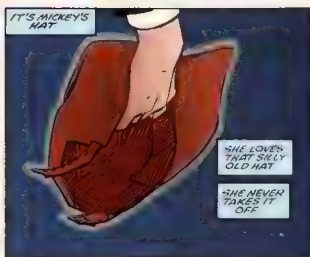
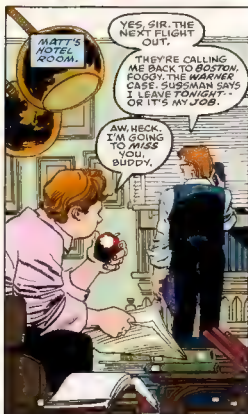
MEANWHILE, THE BIGGEST
BULLY IN TOWN MAKES
HIS FIRST MISTAKE.

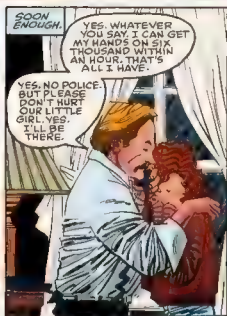
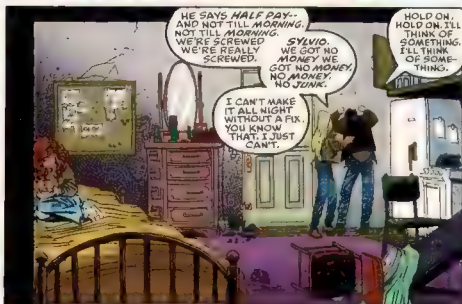
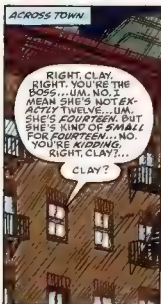
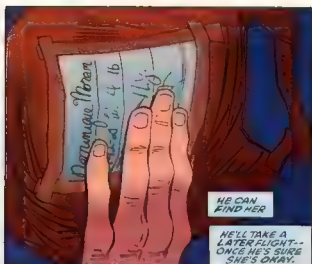
IT BEGINS WITH A SIMPLE ORDER
TO CUT COSTS IN THE FILM
DIVISION.

AFTER ALL, THE PRODUCT IS NOT
ART--AND, FOR ALL THE SCENES
OF PERVERSION AND TORTURE
AND MURDER--

--THERE IS NO NEED
FOR SPECIAL
EFFECTS.







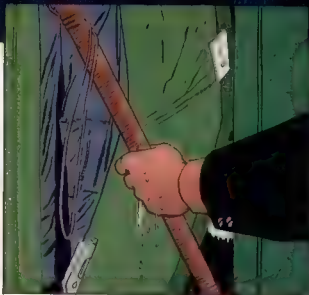


THERE'S
Nobody
WHO CAN
HELP US.



AT THE GYM

KUKK



MEANWHILE,
JUNKIE
SELLS OUT
JUNKIE.

IT'S SYLVIO, CLAY.
HE'S RUNNING A
RANSOM SCAM ON
THE KID'S PARENTS.
THAT'S RIGHT. I
ARGUED WITH HIM
BUT HE WOULDN'T
LISTEN. AND IF THE
KINGPIN FINDS OUT
ABOUT IT YOU COULD
GET HURT. YOU
KNOW I DON'T
WANT YOU GET-
TING HURT.

UM, CAN I
COME OVER?...
OH, SURE, CLAY,
I'LL MEET YOU
ANYWHERE.
WE'LL HAVE A
GOOD TIME, UM.
YOU'VE GOT
MONEY, DON'T
YOU?

CLAY'S BOSS
TELLS HIS
BOSS.

AND
HIS
BOSS
TELLS
HIS
BOSS.

AND
SOME
BODY'S
TELLS
THE
KINGPIN.

UNACCEPTABLE.

CLAY'S
INCOMPETENCE
HAS CAUSED A
MESS, LARKS.
CLEAN IT UP.

YES,
SIR.

DON'T RESTRAIN YOURSELF. MAKE IT AS LOUD AS YOU WISH. EXAMPLES MUST BE MADE. DISCIPLINE MUST BE MAINTAINED.

WE MUST TAKE WHAT ADVANTAGE WE CAN FROM THIS SORRY SITUATION. A FEW GOOD, OLD-FASHIONED GANGSTER-STYLE RUB-OUTS ARE ALWAYS GOOD FOR... REMINDING OUR CONSTITUENCY

OH, AND LARKS... THE GIRL IS YOURS.

VERY GOOD, SIR.

CLAY GRABS A WAD OF TWENTIES FROM THE SAFE AND HEADS FOR HIS SINFUL LITTLE RENDEZVOUS.

HE'LL ONLY NEED A COUPLE OF TWENTIES. IT NEVER TAKES MORE THAN ONE FIX TO GET A JUNKIE A RREEEABLE

CLAY LINES JUNKIES. JUST GIVE ONE WHAT SHE NEEDS.

- AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO TALK TO HER IF YOU DON'T WANT TO

LIFE IS GOOD, HE THINKS.

IT IS TO BE HIS LAST THOUGHT.

THREE MORE REMAIN

FIRST THE TWO JUNKIES DIE.

THEN LARKS WILL DECIDE THE FATE OF THE GIRL.

AT HIS LEISURE.

EAST EIGHTH
STREET.

MIKEY'S DAD IS
BARKING -- MORE
FROM FEAR THAN
FROM FATIGUE.

RING
RING



HELLO?--YES.
YES, I UNDER-
STAND. WHATEVER
YOU SAY, YES, I
KNOW THE CORNER.
YES, I'M ON MY
WAY.

WHOEVER KIDNAPPED MICKEY
IS BOUNCING THE POOR MAN
ALL OVER TOWN, LOOKING TO
SHAKE OFF ANY COPS WHO
MIGHT BE TAILING HIM.

THE COPS WILL BE THE
LEAST OF THEIR WORRIES.



WEST SEVENTY-
SECOND
STREET.

RING
RING



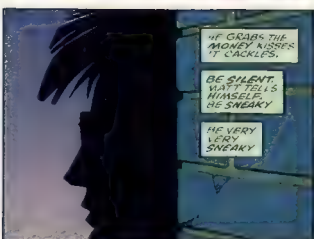
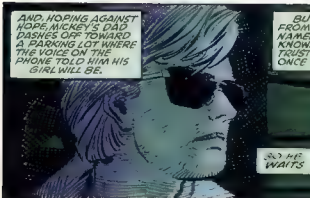
YES, YES.
I'M ON MY
WAY.

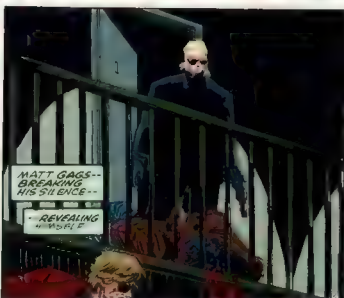
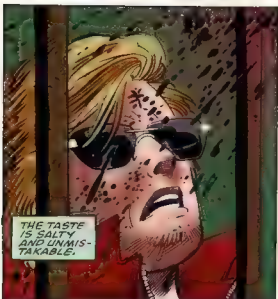


THEY
RUN
THE
POOR
MAN
RAGGED.



AND THEY
TEST WATT'S
PATIENCE
FOR ALL IT'S
WORTH.







IN THE KINGPIN'S HEADQUARTERS.

NO. IT WAS NO COP.

TOO MANY POLICE ARE ON MY PAYROLL FOR THEM TO PROVIDE SUCH A SURPRISE. WE FACE A NEW OPPONENT.

PERHAPS A VIGILANTE-- MORE LIKELY A RIVAL GANG. TAKE THE GIRL TO THE MAIN DISTRIBUTION CENTER AND AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS.

YES SIR.

MR. SLAUGHTER, READY YOUR MEN. ALL OF THEM.

YES, SIR.

ON THE WATER-FRONT.

AT THE MAIN DISTRIBUTION CENTER FOR STOLEN LIVES.

EVERYTHING LOOKS NORMAL ENOUGH--

--BUT THERE'S NASTY BUSINESS GOING ON INSIDE.

STOP IT-- LET GO OF ME!

SCREAM ALL YOU WANT, KID. NOBODY CAN HEAR YOU.

NOBODY CAN HEAR

NOBODY CAN HEAR

NOBODY CAN HEAR

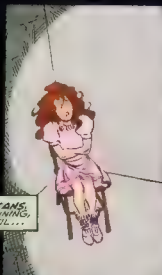
EXCEPT MAYBE ONE GUY...



AND MICKE'S
RIGHT.

MATT HAS
TRAILED
BACK TO
THIS PLACE

...ONE GUY WHO
MIGHT HAVE COME
AFTER HER. ONE GUY
WITH THE BEST BARS
IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

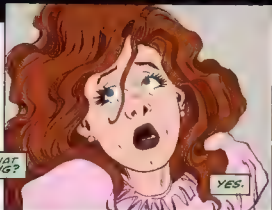


HE SCANS,
TRAINING,
UNTIL...



...HE
HEARS
SOME-
THING
FAINT.
BIRD-
LIKE...

...IS THAT
SINGING?



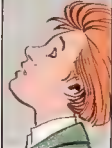
YES.



STRONGER
NOW.



AND OTHER
VOICES. ALL
KIDS.



A
CHORUS.



DOZENS OF
CHILDREN--NOW
HUNDREDS!



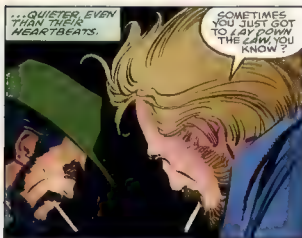
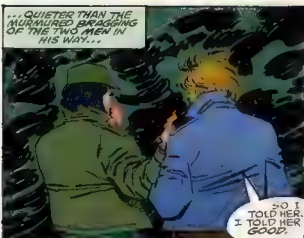
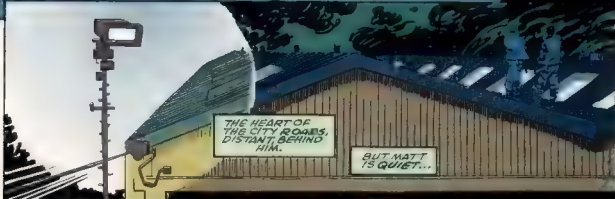
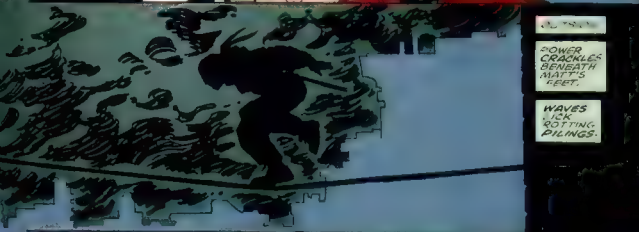
WHAT HAS
MATT STUMBLED
ONTO?



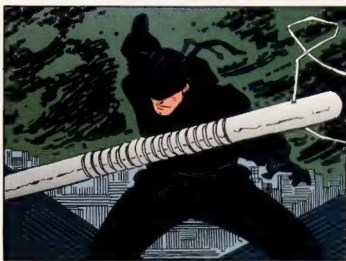
WHAT'S
GOTTEN
INTO
THEM?

THIS IS
GETTING
PRETTY
WEIRD.

JUST
BUILDING
THEIR COURAGE.
THEY'LL NEED
IT.











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